

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission November 17, 2003

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, November 17, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman Wolf
Commissioner Goolsby
Commissioner Pritchard
Commissioner Perry
Commissioner Bessa

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Goolsby made a motion to approve the minute of October 20, 2003 as amended.

Motion: Goolsby
Second: Perry
Carried: 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks stated that he did not receive any e-mails updating the Tree Commission's Goals and Objectives.

The Tree Commission decided to work on the Goals and Objectives and have them done by the next meeting.

Commissioner Wolf asked what the status is on the Tree Inventory.

Mr. Banks stated that more information was requested and that he has not discussed that with ACRT.

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Mr. Banks stated that he had an update on the project on Lawson Road and gave the Tree Commission the Zoning Administrators staff report that would go to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Perry stated that she walked the property for this project and saw a lot of mature trees, a stream and a spring that would all be impacted by this project. Commissioner Perry asked about going to the Planning Commission meeting and voicing her concerns regarding this project.

The Tree Commission discussed the project and was in favor of the project alternative, which would be less of a detriment to the environment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks talked about the Urban Forestry Master Management Plan and stated that he has asked for \$25,000 in the Planning Departments budget for next year for a consultant to do the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Commissioner Bessa stated that he had the Exeter Home Owners Association call him and asked if the Tree Commission could give them some advice regarding replanting some of the trees they had lost during the storms.

Mr. Banks stated that the Home Owners Association e-mailed him a list of trees for consideration.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Banks stated that the Tree Commissions budget is currently set at \$10,000 and asked the Tree Commission if they had any changes.

The Tree Commission decided to ask for \$15,000 for the budget next year to hopefully attract an intern for next Summer.

Mr. Banks stated that would be \$14,000 for materials and supplies and \$1,000 for travel and training.

Mr. Banks stated that the Tree Commission should be receiving their Trees Virginia newsletter and stated that there was an interesting read in it regarding the Urban Forestry Master Plan in Roanoke. They are including it in their Town Plan update. Mr. Banks also stated Arbor Day is set for April 17th 2004 and the next Arbor Day Committee meeting is December 1st at 12 noon.

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COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Pritchard stated that Arbor Day could be held at Ida Lee as long as it is a Town sponsored event.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that there are not many trees downtown because of the sidewalks but stated that at the Structural Soils and Urban Trees workshop they stated they had a way to plant trees in a town area.

Mr. Banks stated that the Arbor Day Committee would need to do a site inspection.

COUNCILMANIC COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Goolsby made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Goolsby
Second: Pritchard
Carried: 4-0

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester